

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (currently amended) A communication system enabling communications between a subscriber and a station, comprising:

a delivery device installed on a station side, said delivery device including delivery means for controlling delivery of a media stream, accounting control means for performing accounting control based on media quality information transmitted from a subscriber side, and authentication means for authenticating a device which is to receive the media stream; and

a terminal device installed on the subscriber side, said terminal device including receiving means for controlling reception of the media stream, connection information management means for managing connection information for specifying the media stream, and media quality measurement control means for controlling measurement of media quality of the specified media stream, generating the media quality information including a measurement result and transmitting the generated media quality information to the station, wherein

said accounting control means calculates a charge based on the media quality information and pays back a proper amount of money to the subscriber, in cases of degradation of the media stream,

said media quality measurement control means performs media quality measurement control in which a loss of packet is detected by continuity of packets of the specified media stream,

said media quality measurement control means uses both a time stamp and a sequence number in the packet to measure the continuity of packets,

said media quality measurement control means detects that at least  $(b - a + 1)$  packets are missing, if a packet  $P(a, t)$  is followed by a packet  $P(b, s)$

Serial No. 09/918,273

Page 3 of 10

where a and b are the respective sequence number, t and s are the respective time stamp.

**2. (canceled)**

**3. (currently amended)** The communication system according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein said delivery device further includes lost data extracting means for the ~~first~~ media quality measurement control, said lost data extracting means extracting lost data from a media stream content, with reference to the media quality information, and transmitting lost data information to the terminal device.

**4. (original)** The communication system according to claim 3, wherein said terminal device further includes quality recovery means for receiving the lost data information and recovering quality of the media stream.

**5. – 10. (canceled)**

**11. (new)** The communication system according to claim 1, wherein if the packet of the sequence number A was lost, the media quality information is constituted by a preceding sequence number (A-1), a succeeding sequence number (A+1), a preceding time stamp which is a time stamp of a packet to be located in just before the packet of the sequence number A, a succeeding time stamp which is a time stamp of a packet to be located in just after the packet of the sequence number A, and a media measurement time.

84126087\_1

Serial No. 09/918,273

Page 4 of 10

**12. (new)** A communication system enabling communications between a subscriber and a station, comprising:

a delivery device installed on a station side, said delivery device including delivery means for controlling delivery of a media stream, accounting control means for performing accounting control based on media quality information transmitted from a subscriber side, and authentication means for authenticating a device which is to receive the media stream; and

a terminal device installed on the subscriber side, said terminal device including receiving means for controlling reception of the media stream, connection information management means for managing connection information for specifying the media stream, and media quality measurement control means for controlling measurement of media quality of the specified media stream, generating the media quality information including a measurement result and transmitting the generated media quality information to the station, wherein

said media quality measurement control means performs media quality measurement control in which a degradation index of a media unit is calculated,

said media quality measurement control means cumulates a degree of influence of propagation of error that occurred on the specified media stream earlier in time than a picture being replayed to calculate the degradation index and transmits the degradation index as the media quality information to the station, and

said accounting control means normalizes the degradation index that is a cumulative degradation value measured from the beginning through to the end of a program and calculates a charge based on the normalized degradation index and pays back a proper amount of money to the subscriber, depending on the state of the degradation of the media stream.

84126087\_1

Serial No. 09/918,273

Page 5 of 10

**13. (new)** The communication system according to claim 12, wherein said media quality measurement control means calculates the degradation index of each of subunits into which the media unit is divided.

**14. (new)** A communication system enabling communications between a subscriber and a station, comprising:

a delivery device installed on a station side, said delivery device including delivery means for controlling delivery of a media stream, accounting control means for performing accounting control based on media quality information transmitted from a subscriber side, and authentication means for authenticating a device which is to receive the media stream; and

a terminal device installed on the subscriber side, said terminal device including receiving means for controlling reception of the media stream, connection information management means for managing connection information for specifying the media stream, and media quality measurement control means for controlling measurement of media quality of the specified media stream, generating the media quality information including a measurement result and transmitting the generated media quality information to the station, wherein

said media quality measurement control means performs media quality measurement control in which a degradation index of a media unit is calculated,

said media quality measurement control means cumulates a degree of influence of propagation of error that occurred on the specified media stream earlier in time than a picture being replayed to calculate the degradation index and transmits the degradation index and a position information of a degraded frame as the media quality information to the station,

84126087\_1

Serial No. 09/918,273

Page 6 of 10

said accounting control means causes a degree of importance of the degraded media unit to be reflected in a calculation of a charge with reference to the position information, and the degree of importance is an extent to which a viewer is satisfied with the delivered media.

84126087\_1